

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-03 SAJ-01

DRC-01 /062 W

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P 261353Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7244

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BTRA UR

SUBJECT: SALE OF ATC EQUIPMENT TO USSR (SHAFFER VISIT)

REF: A) STATE 059556; B) MOSCOW 3882

1. AS DEPT AWARE, SOVIETS HAVE REPEATEDLY ATTEMPTED TO PLACE USG IN POSITION OF ASSOCIATING ITSELF WITH ONE OR OTHER OF ATC PROPOSALS. EMBASSY OF COURSE HAS REMAINED SCRUPULOUSLY NEUTRAL BOTH IN DISCUSSIONS WITH SOVIETS ABOUT PROJECT AND IN TALKING WITH VARIOUS US COMPANY REPS. IN REFTEL B, EMBASSY QUESTIONED ADVISABILITY OF PARTICIPATION BY LOCKHEED IN UPCOMING AVIATION GROUND SUPPORT TRADE MISSION, AS SUCH PARTICIPATION IN OFFICIAL USG MISSION COULD CONCEIVABLY BE CONSTRUED BY SOVIETS AS FAVORITISM TOWARD LOCKHEED.

2. REGARDING SHAFFER VISIT EMBASSY PLANS MAKE LOWKEY APPROACH (USING EMBASSY'S SOVIET COMMERCIAL ASSISTANT) TO MIN CIVIL AVIATION, ADVISING OF HIS TRAVEL PLANS AND STATUS AS IBM REPRESENTATIVE, BUT OMITTING REFERENCE TO FORMER POSITION AS FAA ADMINISTRATOR. IN SHORT, EMBASSY INTENDS TO AVOID ANY ACTIONS WHICH COULD APPEAR AS SEEKING SPECIAL ATTENTION FOR SHAFFER AND THUS FAVORING IBM OVER OTHER OPTENTIAL US SOURCES OF ATC EQUIPMENT.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974MOSCOW04348
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740064-1154
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740315/aaaaanlj.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 059556; B) MOSCOW 3882
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 04 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <04 JUN 2002 by rowelle0>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2002 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SALE OF ATC EQUIPMENT TO USSR (SHAFFER VISIT)
TAGS: BTRA, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005